

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	11116	Agenda Number	89.
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Meeting Date:	12/15/2011	Department:	Neighborhood and Community Development
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Subject

Conduct a public hearing to receive public comments and consider a resolution adopting proposed amendments to the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Citizen Participation Plan.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Contact Elizabeth A. Spencer, Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, 974-3182.
Boards and Commission Action:	December 13, 2011 – The Community Development Commission conducted a public hearing to receive public input on proposed amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This public hearing is in accordance with the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development's (NHCD's) Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), which sets forth the City's policies and procedures for citizen participation in the development of reports required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the annual Action Plan, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. These reports are required as a condition of the City receiving federal grant entitlement funds such as Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership Program, Emergency Shelter/Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS.

HUD requires cities receiving these funds to adopt a CPP that encourages citizens to participate in the development of these federal reports.

The NHCD Office is proposing changes to the existing CPP with the intent to establish a more efficient process and increase public awareness and public participation in the development of these reports and

administration of federal dollars. Changes also serve to update program information and provide regulatory clarification. The following amendments are offered as a summary of the substantive proposed changes. See Exhibit A for the amended plan.

- 1) Page 6 – Revision to Section E No. 2, related to the notification process serves to enhance public participation by utilizing City of Austin publications and media (television, print, electronic) that will maximize use of City resources and reach an increased number of Austin residents by direct mail. Related to federal publications referenced above, NHCD will notify the public about public hearings, comment periods, public meetings, and additional opportunities for public feedback through communications outlets that are designed to increase public participation and generate quantifiable feedback/results. NHCD will utilize the following notifications mechanisms as available: City of Austin utility bill inserts (distribution to approximately 410,000 households, 2011); City of Austin web site; and Channel 6, the municipally-owned cable channel. In addition, the NHCD will use other available media (print, electronic, television) to promote public feedback opportunities. Notifications will be published in English and Spanish.
- 2) Page 9 – Replacement of Exhibit 1 with the NHCD Investment Plan to reflect an updated list of programs and activities. The NHCD Investment Plan was developed during the FY 2009-14 Consolidated Plan process and provides a framework to reflect activities and services the City of Austin administers with federal and local funds. These include programs funded by HUD entitlement grants. The Exhibit will be updated as programs and activities change.
- 3) Page 7 – Revision to Section G, to provide clarification in compliance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Policies Act of 1970, as amended.